

Anne Frank

Annelies Marie "Anne" Frank was born on the 12th June 1929. She was a German-born diarist, and one of the most discussed Jewish victims of the Holocaust, she gained fame after her death with the publication of 'The Diary of a Young Girl', in which she documents her life in hiding from 1942 to 1944, during the German occupation of the Netherlands in World War II. It is one of the world's most widely known books and has been the basis for several plays and films.



Born in Frankfurt, Germany, she lived most of her life in Amsterdam, Netherlands, having moved there with her family at the age of four and a half when the Nazis gained control over Germany.

By May 1940, the Franks were trapped in Amsterdam by the German occupation of the Netherlands. As persecutions of the Jewish population increased in July 1942, the Franks went into hiding in some concealed rooms behind a bookcase in the building where Anne's father, Otto Frank, worked.

From then until the family's arrest by the Gestapo in August 1944, she kept a diary she had received as a birthday present, and wrote in it regularly. Following their arrest, the Franks were transported to concentration camps. In October or November 1944, Anne and her sister, Margot, were transferred from Auschwitz to Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, where they died (probably of typhus) a few months later.

They were originally estimated by the Red Cross to have died in March, with Dutch authorities setting the 31st March 1945 as their official date of death, but research by the Anne Frank House in 2015 suggests they more likely died in February 1945.

Otto, the only survivor of the Franks, returned to Amsterdam after the war to find that her diary had been saved by his secretary, Miep Gies, and his efforts led to its publication in 1947. It was translated from its original Dutch version and first published in English in 1952 as 'The Diary of a Young Girl', and has since been translated into over 60 languages.

Retrieval

- 1 – When was Anne Frank born?
- 2 – In what country was she born?
- 3 – How did she gain fame after her death?
- 4 - At what age did she move to Amsterdam and why?
- 5 – Why were the Frank family trapped in Amsterdam and why?
- 6 – Where did the family go into hiding?
- 7 – What happened to Anne and her sister, Margot, after their arrest?
- 8 – How did the diary come to be published?
- 9 – Who is Miep Gies?
- 10 – How many languages has the diary now been translated into?
- 11 – Who was the only member of the family to survive?

Words in Context

- 12 – Write the following sentence and underline all the proper nouns.

By May 1940, the Franks were trapped in Amsterdam by the German occupation of the Netherlands.

- 13 – What might the word 'estimated' mean in the fifth paragraph?